

## **BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the Revocation )  
 )  
of the Educator Certificate of )  
 )  
G. Stephen Zeltman )  
 )  
Certificate # 210937 )

### **ORDER OF PERMANENT REVOCATION**

### **SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on May 11, 2004. On November 12, 2003, the State Board issued an order summarily suspending the South Carolina educator certificate (certificate) number 210937 issued to G. Stephen Zeltman. On November 17, 2003, the State Department of Education (Department) sent a notice of the possible suspension or revocation of his certificate to Mr. Zeltman by certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. Mr. Zeltman received the notice, as evidenced by the signed postal receipt. Mr. Zeltman did not request a hearing and is in default. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Mr. Zeltman's teaching certificate # 210937.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

Mr. Zeltman holds a valid South Carolina certificate, and has over twenty-six years of teaching experience credit. He was under contract with the Horry County School District (District) for the 2003-2004 school year as a drama teacher at North Myrtle Beach High School. Mr. Zeltman was arrested on October 9, 2003, and charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct with a Minor, Second Degree. He was also on administrative leave by the District on that date. Mr. Zeltman resigned from the District

on October 14, 2003. Mr. Zeltman admitted to authorities that he had a sexual relationship with a fifteen-year old female student from March 1, 2002, until March 1, 2003. Mr. Zeltman admitted that he performed oral sex on the victim several times and that she performed oral sex on him.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004). Just cause includes: “Unprofessional conduct; Immorality; Any conduct involving moral turpitude, Crime against the law of this State or the United States, and Evident unfitness for position for which employed.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that there is substantial evidence, which is undisputed by Mr. Zeltman, to support its decision to permanently revoke Mr. Zeltman’s educator certificate #210937, effective May 11, 2004.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Mary E. Jones  
Mary E. Jones  
Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
May 11, 2004